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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: STOUFFER ET AL. ) EXAMINER:  
S/ )  
S/ SERIAL NUMBER: 10/719,213 ) ART UNIT:  
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Mail Stop:  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests early entry of the following amendments to the above referenced application:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2;  
REMARKS begin on page 3.

37 CFR 1.8  
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on 8 JANUARY 2004.

Signature:

Lisa S. Susser